

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 /044 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/T: JFPERDEW:PH

APPROVED BY A/SY/T: DGFISCHER, CHIEF

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R 022226Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT:X-RAY EQUIPMENT

REF: HONG KONG 13683 (NOTAL)

ADDIS, BEIRUT, FRANKFURT, HONG KONG AND PANAMA FOR RTC AND  
RSS. ABIDJAN, ATHENS, CANBERRA, NEW DELHI, PRETORIA AND  
RIO DE JANEIRO FOR TSO

1. TERRORISM THREATS TO FOREIGN SERVICE MISSIONS HAVE  
RAISED CONSIDERABLE DEMANDS FOR X-RAY EQUIPMENT TO  
INVESTIGATE SUSPICIOUS MAIL AND PACKAGES.

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2. IN RESPONSE TO THIS DEMAND, SY/T PURCHASED APPROXIMATELY

ONE HUNDRED X-RAY MACHINES UNDER COUNTER-TERRORISM PROGRAM FOR USE AS LEAVE-BEHIND EQUIPMENT. THESE MACHINES ARE NOW BEING DELIVERED TO AREA REPOSITORIES.

3. THE DISTRIBUTION OF THIS QUANTITY OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT SIGNIFICANTLY ALTERS THE SY/T X-RAY PROGRAM AS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED. EXPANDED PROGRAM WILL PUT A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF MACHINES IN THE HANDS OF TECHNICALLY UNQUALIFIED PERSONNEL. POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARD TO UNINITIATED PERSONNEL IS SIGNIFICANT.

4. IN ADDITION, CURRENT SY/T FILM BADGE PROGRAM HAS DETERIORATED SIGNIFICANTLY. SOME TSOS AND SEABEES ARE LAX OR NON-RESPONDENT IN RETURNING FILM BADGES AND OBSERVING BASIC SAFETY PROCEDURES.

5. IN LIGHT OF THESE PROBLEMS, SY/T IS UNDERTAKING EMERGENCY PROGRAM TO UPGRADE AND ENFORCE X-RAY SAFETY PROGRAM. WE HOPE TO OUTLINE FULL NEW PROGRAM BY MID-FEBRUARY. IN ADDITION TO NEW PROCEDURES, SY/T HOPES TO SEND TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED TSO TO INSTRUCT TSOS AND SEABEES IN ALL FACETS OF X-RAY SAFETY AND NEW SY/T X-RAY PROGRAM.

6. IN THE MEANTIME, PERSONNEL SHOULD CONTINUE TO USE X-RAY FILM BADGES AS IN THE PAST.

7. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, SY/T URGES THAT X-RAY EQUIPMENT NOW IN AREA REPOSITORIES NOT REPEAT NOT BE DISTRIBUTED TO CONSTITUENT POSTS FOR THE TIME BEING UNLESS DEFINITE EMERGENCY SITUATION EXISTS WHERE X-RAY IS REQUIRED. IN THOSE INSTANCES, A TSO SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE EQUIPMENT TO THE POST TO INSTALL IT AND INSTRUCT USER PERSONNEL IN THE NECESSARY SAFETY PROCEDURES. WHERE EMERGENCY SITUATIONS DO NOT EXIST, CONSTITUENT POSTS SHOULD BE ADVISED THAT X-RAY EQUIPMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING WITHIN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS.

8. BY THE TIME NEW SAFETY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED, X-RAY SCREENS FOR THE NEW EQUIPMENTS BEING SHIPPED TO AREA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPOSITORIES WILL BE AVAILABLE. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 75 HONG KONG 13683  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 MAY 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <30 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006